

As an important part of the U.S. running movement in its early years, Mark Covert's place in history was already secure. Now, through his current unmatched running streak, he continues to inspire and motivate thousands of runners around the country and around the world. I'd like to thank him for his commitment and urge my colleagues to do the same.

RECOGNIZING THE  
CONTRIBUTIONS OF JOEY QUINTO

**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 30, 2008*

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Joey Quinto, publisher of the California Journal for Filipino Americans.

Mr. Quinto was born and educated in the Philippines, where he received a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from San Beda College in Manila, Philippines. He also graduated from the Minority Business Executive Programs of the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth in Hanover, New Hampshire. Mr. Quinto now resides with his wife Carlyn and daughter Carlette in Palos Verdes, California.

Mr. Quinto's contributions to the advancement of the API community are many. He began his professional career in California in 1984 as a mortgage banker. As a publisher, his weekly newspaper advances the interests of the API community and appropriately addresses local, consumer and business news, and community events. He is also a member of several community organizations. These include the Los Angeles Minority Business Opportunity Committee and The Greenlining Coalition.

His contributions have been widely recognized. Mr. Quinto is the recipient of the Award for Excellence in Journalism during the Fourth Annual Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Awards in celebration of the Asian Pacific Islander American Heritage Month. This award recognizes prominent APIs that have excelled in bringing pertinent news to the API community. He previously was listed among the Star Suppliers of the Year of the Southern California Regional Purchasing Council in 1999, received the Minority Media Award from the U.S. Small Business Administration in 1997, and has also earned a leadership award from the Filipino American Chamber of Commerce based in Los Angeles.

Madam Speaker, I hope that my colleagues will join me in congratulating Joey Quinto for his years of service to the API community. Through his tireless work effort he has demonstrated that the American dream is possible.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL INTERNET  
SAFETY MONTH

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 30, 2008*

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1260, a resolution in support of the goals and ideals of "National Internet

Safety Month". This is an issue I have personally been working on for a number of years through the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations.

Through the Subcommittee's investigation, we've been able to influence significant changes in the industry, including better filtering and reporting efforts among Internet Service Providers, social networking sites, and other content providers.

We have also discovered a number of alarming statistics, for example:

One in five children report receiving a sexual solicitation over the Internet, more than 3.5 million pornographic images of American children are in circulation on the Internet, and the sale of these images over the Internet represents a billion dollar industry.

The anonymity provided by the Internet to those that seek to exploit and harm children and the lightning pace data is transmitted provides a Congress with significant policy challenges.

While we've made some progress in the last few years, I feel that we've only begun to address the scope of this problem.

By recognizing National Internet Safety Month, we remind ourselves how important it is for Congress to remain committed and vigilant to ensure that the Internet is a safe place for children.

VETERANS DISABILITY BENEFITS  
CLAIMS MODERNIZATION ACT OF  
2008

SPEECH OF

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 29, 2008*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5892, The Veterans Disability Benefits Claims Modernization Act of 2008. This legislation will help to address difficulties that our veterans face in accessing needed health care records and medical compensation. I want to thank Chairman JOHN HALL of New York for his leadership on the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs of the House Veterans Affairs Committee and for sponsoring this legislation.

I support the bill's intent to streamline the current VA claims process faced by our nation's 24,000,000 veterans. Studies show that the average processing time for veterans' claims has increased from 177 days to 183 days in one year alone. Moreover, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) predicts that the number of claims will surpass 1,000,000 by the end of fiscal year 2008. H.R. 5892 will provide incentives for the Veteran's Association to modernize their processing protocol by utilizing existing information technology in the processing of claims. These incentives will provide veterans with a more user-friendly means of filing claims and more importantly a faster response time with claims requests.

In particular, our veterans on Guam face the additional challenge of having to file their claims through the Regional Office in Honolulu, Hawaii. Over 20 percent of the backlogged cases in Honolulu are cases from Guam. Improved information technology systems will help facilitate the processing of claims on Guam. Moreover, I will continue to

work with Chairman HALL and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enhance services provided by the VA Office on Guam. Improvements in the claims processing system along with a greater VA presence on Guam will greatly improve the current situation for our island's veterans.

H.R. 5892 will also address the Department of Veterans Affairs' standard for adjudicating a veterans level of disability. The VA currently employs the Department of Veterans Affairs Schedule for Rating Disabilities (VASRD), a schedule first commissioned during the First World War. The VASRD was last revised in 1945 and has yet to include contemporary medical practices and procedures. The legislation also requires improvement training and assessment of training for VA caseworkers. In total, this legislation takes a major step forward in ensuring better quality of care and treatment for our nation's veterans.

Our veterans have sacrificed in service to our country, and it is our duty to provide them with the adequate support and service commensurate to their dedication. I would like to thank my colleague Chairman HALL for authoring this bill and I urge passage of H.R. 5892.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 30, 2008*

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I was also unavoidably absent yesterday during rollcall votes 534, 535 and 536. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 534 to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a pilot program using mobile biometric identification tools to identify terrorists and other individuals who pose risks to border security; "yea" on rollcall 535 to require each federal agency to include a telephone number in its collection of information in order to assist people with filling out government forms; and "yea" on rollcall 536 to establish an ombudsman within the Department of Veterans Affairs.

IN HONOR OF YASH PAUL SOI

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 30, 2008*

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Yash Paul Soi, a devoted leader who has worked tirelessly to advance and promote Indian culture. Mr. Soi has been an exemplary spokesman and ambassador for the causes of India and its people in the United States.

Mr. Soi has committed himself to supporting the Asian-Indian community through the advancement of Indian cultural activities. He has been recognized as an Indian cultural icon and his Indian music radio program has been vastly influential. His work in bringing Indian issues to the media forefront presented him with the opportunity to interview Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, President Jimmy Carter, and many other distinguished world figures. Additionally, Mr. Soi has contributed to American society through his work to bring Indian arts to many of our Nation's most famous stages.